

**REMARKS**

The present preliminary amendment is submitted in order to correct the improper multiple dependency of claims and to correct minor deficiencies noted in the PCT application and to conform the application with U.S. practice.

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Arlene J. Powers  
Registration No. 35,985  
Gauthier & Connors, LLP  
225 Franklin Street, Suite 3300  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110  
Telephone: (617) 426-9180  
Extension 110